

The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 5874 — VOL. XXXVIII.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1857.

PRICE FOURPENCE.

SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS.

On the 2nd April, at his residence, Pitt-street South, at half past eight o'clock, a.m., Mr. William Bowes, a native of this city, leaving a large circle of friends to deplore their loss, in the 27th year of his age.

SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS.

STEAM TO BALMAIN and PYRMONT from the foot of Erskine-street. Fare, 3d. 8. CROOK.

STEAM TO MANLY BEACH, from Phoenix Wharf, daily, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.; returning at noon (12), and 5:30 p.m., calling at Woolloomooloo Bay.

STEAM TO WATSON'S BAY every MONDAY, STEAM TO WATSON'S BAY, from Phoenix Wharf, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.; returning at 12:15 and 5:45 p.m., calling at Woolloomooloo Bay.

STEAM TO WATSON'S BAY.—On SUNDAY next, a S. boat will leave the Phoenix Wharf at 2 p.m. and Woolloomooloo Bay at 2:30 and 4 p.m.; returning at 3 and 5:45 p.m.

STEAM TO MERIMBA, TWOFOOT BAY.—The WILLIAM, Captain GATFIELD, will leave the Phoenix Wharf, woolloomooloo Bay, next, calling at Ultimo and B. and V. the last trip previous to being 100 ft up for new machinery. Returning from Merimbah on the TUESDAY following.

STEAM to the HUNTER.—THE WILLIAMS, THIS MORNING (Friday), at 8 o'clock. THE HUNTER TOMORROW (Saturday) MORNING.

TIDE-OUT R. DYE, manager.

H. R. N. S. N. Company's Wharf, foot of Market-street, April 3.

THE A. S. N. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.

CLARENCE to the HUNTER, TO-NIGHT, FRI-

DAY, April 3, 1857.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL, to MELBOURNE, TO-

MORROW (Saturday) AFTERNOON, at 3.

STEAMER to MORTON BAY, and IPSWICH, within 48 hours after arrival.

STEAMER to CLARENCE TOWN, MONDAY

APRIL 11.

WARATAH, to WIDE BAY, WEDNESDAY, 15th APRIL, at 8 a.m.

JAMES PATERSON, Manager.

EDUCATION IN PASSAGE-MONEY per A.S.N. Co's.

Steamers to MELBOURNE.—

Intermediate £3 8

Steerage 5 15

JAMES PATERSON, manager.

A.S.N. Co's Wharf, 26th January, 1857.

THE EUROPEAN and AUSTRALIAN ROYAL MAIL COMPANY'S steamship COLUMBIAN, 2300 tons, 130 horse-power, WILLIAM PENDER, Esq., commander, and Capt. H. Macrae's Master, will be despatched to Sydney, and intermediate ports, on SATURDAY, 11th of April, at 8 a.m., precisely.

RATES OF PASSAGE, including expense of transit through Egypt, but exclusive of wines, spirits, ale, &c.

STEET TO Melbourn. Sound. Guile. Admir. Miles. Southampton.

Single birth in a state-room in £ 2 5 5 2 5 2 5 2 5

pop. or main deck, outside range 9 25 70 85 110 115 125

Double birth, inside range 7 20 50 65 85 95 105

or in centre state-rooms 10 5

Single birth with four births charged extra.

Children under three years, if not occupying a berth, free (except the cost of tranship to Egypt); from three to ten years, £1 10s. for a berth, £1 each occupying a berth, two-thirds free. European servants, half-free. Native Indian servants, one-third free.

The rates of passage include steward's fees, bedding, and linen, together with attendance of experienced male and female servants.—An experienced Surgeon on board of each ship.

First-class passengers will be allowed 3 cwt. of personal baggage, free of freight.

Merchandise cannot be carried under the name of Passage, but will be carried for the account of the owner, and will be charged as in ordinary passage.

For freight or passage, having very superior accommodation, apply to JOSEPH KENDALL, agent for the William Denny; or to J. C. and G. DIBBS, Campbell's Wharf.

NOTICE to SHIPPERS and Passengers per BRISTOL.

Captain S. LEITCH, a small auxiliary crew steamship, will be despatched from Campbell's Wharf, Saturday, 11th April, at 8 a.m., to call at a number of intermediate ports, and return to Sydney, 26th April.

For freight or passage, having very superior accommodation, apply to CAPTAIN SCOTT, of the Phoenix Company's Wharf, or to BUYERS and LEARMOUTH, Charlotte-place.

For freight or passage apply to CAPTAIN JOYCE, of the Phoenix Company's Wharf; or to BUYERS and LEARMOUTH, Charlotte-place.

For freight or passage apply to CAPTAIN H. H. HILL, of the Phoenix Company's Wharf, or to BUYERS and LEARMOUTH, Charlotte-place.

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NOTES OF A TOUR FROM MOSCOW TO THE CRIMEA AND ODESSA.

(From *The Times' Special Correspondent*.)

Second Letter.

Ocrosova 5.—The only thing which occurred to annoy us last night, in addition to the behaviour of the tarantasse, was the constant interruptions occasioned by the trains of country carts on the road, with sleepy or careless drivers and erratic propensities. Here we are really on a highway and there ought to be a right and a left hand side, but the distinction is only to be established by the imminent danger of collision, or by the application of the whip to the population generally. The wild yells, the strange objurgations, and the savage dialogue which arose as our yamschik scolded down on a string of those carts, were quite enough to banish sleep for the time. By the dim light of our lamps as the tarantasse jolted past them we could just catch a glimpse of the half-awakened carrier through the driving rain, and see him tugging manfully at his horses, to drag them out of our line of fire. The lot of the poor creatures who conduct the internal carrying trade of Russia is scarcely to be borne by even the most resigned of serfs, and it may be considered that they are the most miserable class of all the miseries whose fate is to live under the wing of the double-headed eagle. It is, nevertheless, true that man serfs envy the carriers, for their life is free. That is, it frequently happens that the man who is a sort of fluctuating, uncertain property, always on the move, and shifting his position from place to place, is practically out of the reach of the superintendent, and is sometimes liberated from serfdom altogether in consideration of a certain sum paid down to his master. Through the summer heats and in the winter's cold the carrier drives on night and day, and accomplishes by the endurance of every privation, and by the most stolid, ox-like persistence, the most enormous distances. The frozen lake, the great inland sea, the turbid mountain torrent, the pathless steppe, the dull, dead, straight highway,—he plods over or along them all with equal indifference, prepared for so many copecks per pound, to carry a load as far round the world as Russia extends. Clad in a high-smelling sheepskin coat, with the skirt turned outwards and "the woolly side in," a sheepskin cap, a surtou of cotton, a red shirt, loose linen trousers, drawn over a wonderful series of cloth cuisses, and great jack-boots, made of most un-mistakeable Russian leather, with his own little particular saint fastened round his neck, a loaf of black bread somewhere in his cart, a coper or two for the purchase of corn whisky in his pocket, and a store of onions and cabbages for his humble meal, the carrier will start from Moscow to Tertiary, Odessa, or to Tiflis with equal indifference. The cart is a light framework of wood, with sides of birch bark, and a tilt roof of coarse canvas or oilcloth stretched over hoops. The wheels are not always provided with iron tires—indeed, never in the south of Russia, and the rim is composed of pieces which form very imperfect circles, and seem very slightly connected with each other. The axles project far beyond the nave, and curious gyre ropes and stays of rope springing out of these parts are connected with the shafts, and aid in holding the fabric together. The harness is of leather and rope, the horses are hardy and hairy, and will make an honest and ample livelihood by pickings of bits of wood-shavings, thistles, and weeds along the borders of the highway or on the stony steppe. The load of a cart rarely exceeds 14 cwt., and the cost of carriage is so much increased by the greatness of the distances to be traversed that, notwithstanding the cheapness of transport considered *per se*, and so much per pound per yard, the prices are very much affected as the traveller approaches or recedes from the sea. Thus the transport of a bottle of wine from Odessa to Kharhoff adds a shilling to its price, and the rate increases in proportion with the weight rather than with the bulk of the article to be carried. These men suffered most dreadfully during the war. They were pressed for service wherever they could be found, and forced at the point of the lance to carry loads which often proved destructive to the carts and fatal to the horses, if, indeed, the proprietors survived to witness the loss. In snowdrifts and in lakes of mud these wretched men sank to rise no more, or staggered on, fever-stricken, over the parched steppe till they lay down to die in the blazing sunshine. The number of men and animals used up in this way exceeds belief, and, although, after my personal experience of the route which they followed, I can believe what was stated to me, I dare not tax the credulity of your readers by repeating the figures to them.

I have a kind of sleepy consciousness that we changed horses several times during the night, and that an immense deal of time was generally lost in getting out the quadrupeds, waking up the yamschiks, and fighting the postmasters, and a good deal of grumbling took place whenever the purse-bearer was roused up to pay for greasing the wheels, or to give the drivers their *na vekta* or *na tsch* (literally "for brandy" or "for tea")—drink money. With the morning light came no very pleasant prospect; rain still fell at intervals, the country smoked with a kind of misty dew, and the poor villages of wooden houses by the roadside looked *ultra* uncomfortable in their environs of thick black mud. The country, however, seemed fertile, and was not destitute of marks of cultivation. The surface lay on either side of in a series of easy undulations, studded with clumps of trees, patches of forest, and marked out into fields by hedges, which were preparing themselves by looking as dry, as spiky, and as rough as possible, to do battle with the coming winter. As the day drew on, the mujiks issued forth from their huts, and rubbed their eyes as the tarantasse drove past, or with the calm dignity of command superintended the operations of their wives and daughters who were busied in driving forth the pigs and cattle, drawing water from the wells, or beating up maize and rye in small mortars for the morning meal. Every one has described the mujik, whom we call "serf" but whom the polite and euphemistic Russian—in order not to hurt one's feelings, possibly—always speaks of as "payan," and who is, according to his master's account of him possessed of many most admirable qualities—to wit, faith and charity (but, alas! no hope), patience, courage, submissiveness, loyalty, and patriotism. But they dare not for their lives say that he is honest, intelligent, sober, industrious, truthful, or moral. The Russian soldiers and "peasants" have a saying which is to this effect, "That he who sees drink, food, money, or clothes unguarded and does not take them is a fool who ought never to get the chance again," and I believe they act very much on that principle. Their faith indeed is great, but it would be difficult to draw the line which separates it from gross superstition and ignorant fanaticism; their charity is undoubtedly, and each may well say, "miser ego miseris successus disco." As to patience, it is sometimes a forced virtue imposed on us by the inutility and danger of impatience, and in the Russian it is allied closely to an Oriental

fatalism. His courage is undoubtedly; it is connected with his patience, religious faith, and habits of submission, and is quite destitute of brilliancy or dash. In doggedness and indifference to suffering, in the mute endurance of pain, and in fearlessness of death the Russian is courageous, but in the higher qualities of bravery he is deficient. On his submissiveness rests the whole structure of Russian Government and Russian society, but I much doubt whether he is loyal; among no people have there been more plots against the Throne, more revolts, more resistance to the Sovereign till the cannon came in to decide the controversy, on the revival of which he has since kept his eye steadily fixed and very wide open. Granting that he is possessed of patriotism, we shall find, nevertheless, that it is rarely ever strong enough to resist the voice of avarice, and that his dishonesty is stronger than his love of country. Thus, one universal system of plunder and robbery of the national property took place during the late war. None too great—none too small to share in it, and the commission which is now spread over the empire inquiring into the thefts and peculations of public servants, civil and military, is said to be appalled by the disclosures which have been made, and to hesitate in continuing its labours. In spite of all that reason urges against the Russian and his morals, one cannot help pitying the poor fellow and magnifying the virtues which he undoubtedly possesses. How much or how many of his vices may arise from his profound ignorance, his hopeless mental darkness, the degradation of his position, and the form of government under which he lives, it is impossible for me to say, but their masters claim for them the possession of a Spaniard's "good qualities," and too often give credit to them a Spaniard's treatment. Where is the peasant in all broad Russia who dare resent a kick, a knockdown blow, a bleeding mouth, or a black eye, received at the hands of the meanest official with a Government button on his cap? A complaint to a local magistrate for such an offence would, I am assured, be regarded as a proof of some dangerous conspiracy, and a demonstration of stupendous audacity which would expose the mujik to suspicion or punishment. However, we shall see and talk more of him as we get on. It is now a quarter to eight o'clock in the morning, and we are entering the town of Serpuchoff, a town of about 7000 inhabitants, 93 versts, or 62 miles south of Moscow. The natives are obviously influenced by their proximity to the ancient capital, and have "run up" an infinity of little churches, with the usual cupolas and spires, all over the town, so that from a distance it looks like a city. I counted more than a dozen edifices of the kind, the clean white steeples and green and gilt cupolas of which presented a marked contrast to the filth profound of the streets. We lumbered along in a foot deep of mud, through struggling wooden houses, now and then interspersed with larger mansions of stone; and, passing a small *bela gorod*, or white city, a sort of little Kremlin, surrounded with white walls, with battlements and towers, pulled up at the inn in a square of some 300 yards broad, which was like a lake of liquid mud, with dung-hills rising island-like above the surface. Through this delectable slough there tumbled about, like porpoises in a tide-way, shoals of the wildest looking pigs, the very aspect of which was enough to drive into a state of mental aberration the strongest-minded member of the Smithfield Club. Very tall, long in the leg, and thin in the flank as greyhounds, with huge heads armed with great tusks, and garnished with ponderous ears, these animals seemed utterly unsuited for the purpose of the ham or bacon producer, and to be valuable only for their bristles, of which a mane ran down their sharp backs, and a plentiful flock descended from their scraggy sides. There was nothing very pleasant to regale any of the senses on at Serpuchoff. The inn itself was a mean-looking building, two stories high, with narrow dirty windows. The town, as far as it was visible, in spite of its minarets, cupolas, and spires, seemed the very castle and capital of indolence.

Silent groups of serfs propped up the walls of the houses a l'Irlaideuse, waiting till the chapel were open, or till they were tired of resting themselves, all clad alike in sheepskin coats and long boots, the women being only distinguishable from the men by their caps, the absence of beards, and greater bulk—I had almost said stature. The townspeople splattered along the narrow and irregular *pave* in those wonderful long-kirtled frock coats, the notion of which they seem to have borrowed from the Jewish gaberdine, and in those flat and ugly caps with huge peaks, their fondness for which is characteristic of the Russian race. Standing by the kerbstones, over the ankles in mud, were several of the most miserable "objects" of charity one could find in all the ragged realms of mendicity, who kept up a low monotonous whining for alms, thoroughly professional, and so irritating as to drive the hardest-hearted of men to throw his last copeck away to escape its infliction. Beggars of beggars they were indeed; old men and women, in rags of undistinguishable fabric, their heads covered with the folds of the coarse sackcloth which descended over their shoulders as a substitute for a coat, and their feet, as we could see whenever they moved, thrust into rude sandals made of birch bark, plaited together. Two prisoners in chains were, with their escort, crossing the mud of the square, almost as miserable in aspect—God knows how far they differed—as the unclean animals whom they displaced on their weary way. Their guards differed in no respect that we could see from the common soldiers of the line. As they passed the door one of the poor beggars who was standing by the way fumbled amicably with his scabbards, as if he were a leather case; their scabbards are of leather, so as to keep the edge of the blade keen and fit for use. Their appearance caused just as much attention in the town as that of a party of cavalry would have done in a country town in the United Kingdom. After a long delay the tea urn made its appearance, and in came with it a dish full of boiled eggs and some fresh white bread; the tea was excellent, and so we had a capital breakfast of a very dirty tablecloth, with very jagged knives and quaint forks, served up on a service of coarse Russian blue and white *deft*, of which the pattern was the most hideously grotesque kind of design in that way that could be fancied. It was nearly 9 o'clock ere we got off again. In fine weather Serpuchoff may look neat and even pretty. Now, with the streets full of mud and a drizzling rain falling, it was dismal and dirty to behold. It is said to have a good trade with Moscow, and some manufactures, and the waiter told us that there had been many English employed there before the war, and that a few of them were still in the place. However, we did not meet or see any of our country people. At the distance of three miles out of the town, which is built on the wide straight streets, cutting each other at right angles, so much affected by the Russians, flows the river Oka—a fine stream, which is about as broad as the Thames at Richmond, with high and steep banks. The rivulet on which Serpuchoff is situated flows into the Oka. There is no bridge, but a swinging line of boats or pontoons does duty for one, and the tarantasse crossed over by means of it without any difficulty. The river was full of very long and very narrow boats, all filled with coarse hay. The rain began to fall heavily towards noon, and almost hid the country from view. The road was crowded for the whole of the journey with disbanded soldiers, dismissed from their service in compliance with the recent ukase ordering the reduction of the late levies which were made in anticipation of a continuation of the struggle. Poor fellows! their seeming to be a hard fate indeed—to travel thousands of versts, footsore and miserable, through the chill autumn and the approaching winter to their cheerless villages, and there to resume the occupations and toils of the mujik, after their gallant and devoted services. They

were clad in gray old greatcoats, and had been permitted to wear their military caps, trousers, and boots. Many of them were quite footsore, and crept along the muddy roads heavily leaning on their staves and walking-sticks. They are generally kept in little parties of a dozen or twenty, for the sake of society and mutual aid most probably, and of such parties we passed, probably or twelve every hour. After a most tedious, uninteresting, and weary day of jolting, rain, and mud, we arrived at the Russian Birming-ham, the town of Tula, at 11.30 p.m.

THE SOURCES OF ENGLAND'S WEALTH.

(From *The Times*, 13th January.)

The commercial prosperity of this country may be said to depend mainly upon two things—coal and cotton. We are not indisposed to set a full value upon the enterprise of the Anglo-Saxon race, or to allow all credit to those national energies by which, under Providence, our national position is maintained; but that cotton and coal are the material instruments of our success is a proposition which we need be at no pains to establish. What, then, if these materials should one day fail us? It is now some years since a man of marked eminence in thought and wisdom conceived such apprehensions about the gradual exhaustion of our coal beds that he publicly urged the prudence of economising the yield at the very pit's mouth; but this is by no means the more perilous contingency of the two. Our coal pits can hardly fail us in a day, or a year, or in many years. The decline, if it arrived, would proceed by slow gradations, and with ample warning. Very different, however, is the case with cotton. In our consumption of this material we live literally from hand to mouth, and depend for supplies not upon stores apparently unfathomable, but upon the produce of yearly crops, exposed to all the accidents of season and culture. So we do, it will perhaps be said, for our daily bread. But bread is found everywhere. Corn is raised in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, in localities so innumerable, and to an extent so immense, that plenty in one place may compensate for scarcity in another. We have known, in fact, what a bad harvest is, and great as are the sufferings it entails, we can mitigate the pressure and surmount the calamity. But since the cotton manufacturers of Great Britain assumed their present dimensions we have never known a real failure of the cotton crop.

Perhaps this very fact may be taken by some as an argument in favour of the permanence of as-surance that what never yet has happened probably never will. The truth is, however, not only that our whole experience is too short to yield materials for such induction, but that the extent of the demand, and therefore the importance of the supply, have prodigiously increased with prospects also of increasing still further. Cotton in its manufactured form represents nothing less than clothing—clothing in its cheapest and most convenient shape, and the demand for such produce must necessarily advance with the progress of civilisation in every region of the world. There appears scarcely any limit to the amount of cotton manufactures which may be required as nation after nation and tribe after tribe become applicants for supplies; in other words, the field opened to our national industry would in itself be almost boundless. It is a proof, indeed, of the genuine character of the civilization it thus creates that other countries help to meet it as well as ourselves, and that all advance at the same time. At the opening of the present century we imported annually into this country about 75,000 bales of cotton wool. We now import upwards of 2,000,000; but whereas the Continental kingdoms, and above all, the United States had then no manufactures at all, they now work up an amount of cotton almost equally in the aggregate that consumed by ourselves. Taking the whole available cotton produce of the world at 4,000,000 bales annually, it is estimated that 2,100,000 bales go to Great Britain, and 1,900,000 to all other countries.

The peculiarity of this supply, in which we thus hold a stake so enormous as to exceed the risks of all the world, is that it is raised almost entirely in one single country, while it is a fact equally striking that no natural necessity occasions this exclusiveness. Of the whole yield of cotton no less than five-sixths are produced in America, so that for almost all our supplies we are dependent upon crops which the same accidents or vicissitudes might affect. There is no distribution of casualties, no average of chances, one way or another. If things go well in America, cotton is plentiful; if they go ill in America, it is scarce. Even these facts do not convey all the urgency of the case. Such is the progress of demand and consumption, both here and elsewhere, that it may be doubted how long the United States, even under the most favourable conditions, may be enabled to supply us. Our own consumption for the year 1855 is computed to have been double that of 1840, while that of other manufacturing countries increases also. Nothing can put the importance of the case in a stronger light than the fact that the Americans themselves evince uneasiness at the state of things, and would willingly see the field of supply expanded. The subjoined passage shows the view taken of the subject in a New Orleans publication of November last:—

"The main dependence of the world is on this country, which last year furnished 3,500,000 bales out of a total product of 4,000,000. As the necessities of the West come into cultivation, and the progress of the railroads brings the crop within reach of the seaboard, there will be a gradual increase of our production; but to this even there must be a limit, considering the nature of the climate and soil necessary, and the time may not be very far distant when we shall fail to meet the demand. Under this state of things, it is not to be wondered at that the governments of England and France are putting every effort to foster the cultivation of cotton in their colonies. We have certainly no cause for fear or jealousy in view of this. Not only are we as producers interested, but the foreign manufacturer, the political economist, and the philanthropist, alike have taken the matter into serious consideration. We can scarcely contemplate without emotion the disastrous results, commercially, politically, and socially, that might follow a general failure of *only one* crop in this country.

Such facts as these must be amply sufficient to show the urgent necessity of extending the cultivation of an invaluable staple. Be it observed that the possibility of this extension is plain. The advantages of America in this respect may be great, but they are not unique. At this very moment our cotton imports arrive nominally from five distinct regions of the world. Besides the United States there are Brazil, Egypt, the East Indies, and the West Indies—all professing to send cotton to our markets. Of our total imports in 1855 the four last-named countries contributed altogether 654,540 bales, leaving 1,623,565 to be supplied by America. The export of the West Indies is very small, and has of late been almost stationary. Of Egypt and Brazil it may be fairly said, that if the urgency of the demand itself has not operated to increase the supplies they send us, nothing else is likely to do so, but the resources of India offer a far more hopeful prospect. That country—an empire of its own, teeming with population and yielding an inexhaustible field for culture—already fur-

nishes considerably more than half of all the extra-American supplies; in fact, it sent us 396,014 bales in 1855, and 485,680 in 1855. There can be no reason why this crop should not be almost indefinitely increased. Capital is never wanting where returns are certain, and returns are certain where the demand is in advance of the supply. The great impediment hitherto experienced has been in the imperfect means of transport—an obstacle which, besides adding to the cost of cotton at the place of shipment, tended much to the damage of the article on the route. India, however, is now becoming opened by railroads, some of which are in part laid down, while others are projected in various directions, so that to the facilities thus provided we add those likely to arise from improved river navigation, the principal difficulties in the way of cotton exportation ought soon to disappear. It should also be borne in mind that within the last 10 or 15 years vast additional tracts of Indian territory have passed under the control of the British Government. The spacious provinces of Oude and the Punjab now depend upon our rule for the development of their productive resources, and the Nagpore country, with its special cotton districts, is now our own. This, then, is a field to which our efforts may be directed. From any quarter cotton will be welcome, but India, which is an admirably adapted for its cultivation, and which itself will share so largely in the advantages of improved agriculture and extended commerce, presents an obvious attraction to our energies.

THE PRESENT POSITION OF JAMAICA.

(From *The Morning Post*.)

In a memorial recently presented by West Indian merchants and others to Mr. Labouchere, Secretary of State for the Colonies, a picture is drawn of the existing condition of Jamaica which demands the most anxious consideration. The picture is a fearful one; and yet we grieve to say that no one can deny its truthfulness. The memorialists, however, do not rest contented with a gloomy recital of misfortunes; they state that the inhabitants of the island are themselves doing something for its salvation, and they also offer several excellent suggestions for effecting, by help from the mother country, as well as by local exertions, an amelioration of present evils. The memorialists inform Mr. Labouchere that "the material condition of the colony is at the lowest possible point short of universal bankruptcy and ruin. Real estate has no market value, dwelling-houses are gradually decaying, and money can with difficulty be raised, even in return for personal property. Most of the necessary articles of consumption are imported from the United States, while the natural products are neglected, and the money capital of the country is drained in the absence of any exchange of trade. The industrial condition of the inhabitants is at the lowest ebb, and their moral and social condition is not a whit more elevated." It appears that a "Royal Society of Arts" has been established in Jamaica for the purpose of developing the resources of the island, and that though struggling against the exigencies of poverty, this society has already rendered essential services. It exhibited a very important collection of objects at the Paris Exhibition. It is attempting the establishment of local industrial exhibitions; of an institution of arts, with its museum, library, and lecture-room; of industrial schools; of an experimental garden; and has a botanical magazine. These are healthy signs—noble indications of a movement in the right direction. But "the means are not at command in the island to enable the council of the society to act efficiently, and it is deemed necessary to make an urgent appeal to her Majesty's Government for assistance in this respect."

The memorialists state that "the owners of the soil have not means enabling them to make extended experiments with new products; and the sources of public revenue are too cramped to enable the local government to supply the necessary aid." The island abounds with products of the highest promise, and it is essential that by accurate analyses, and other scientific tests, the uses and relative value of samples should be ascertained. In addition to a Parliamentary subsidy to sustain the Jamaica Royal Society of Arts in the difficulties incident to infancy and poverty, it is suggested that an annual grant might be given to the Kew Museum of Economic Botany, or to the London Society of Arts, to be applied to the ascertaining, by the aids of science, the probable market value of products supposed to be available as articles of commerce. The other leading suggestions of the memorial are, a Parliamentary subsidy to sustain the Jamaica Royal Society of Arts in the difficulties incident to infancy and poverty, it is suggested that an annual grant might be given to the Kew Museum of Economic Botany, or to the London Society of Arts, to be applied to the ascertaining, by the aids of science, the probable market value of products supposed to be available as articles of commerce. The other leading suggestions of the memorial are, an educational grant; the adjustment between the Home and Colonial Governments of a plan for the immigration of settlers; an alteration of the franchise in favour of education; the establishment of an "island bank" connected with the public treasury; and the passing of an encumbered estates act.

The two principal causes of the present deplorable condition of Jamaica are the evils engendered by the former system of slavery, and the sudden abolition of that system. This latter event placed the labouring population in a position for which they had not been prepared, and deprived the soil of their labour to an extent utterly disastrous.

The low price of sugar which (with the exception of the last two years) has prevailed ever since the reduction of duty on slave sugar, has undoubtedly had a great share in reducing Jamaica to its present extremity: still the disastrous condition of the island has been chiefly induced by another cause—the want of steady, continuous labour. The more populous islands, such as Barbadoes, have not, like Jamaica and the thinly-peopled islands, fallen off in their production of the staples. Not only has the supply of labour been diminished by the disinclination to work which characterizes the Negro population, but likewise by the reduction in the number of the people by the scourges of smallpox and cholera. The mortality from the former disease arose from the neglect of vaccination and the deficiency of medical assistance, which has been a serious evil since the abolition of slavery: the mortality from cholera, as official reports established, was enormously augmented by filth, and the want of the most ordinary hygienic resources. In 1850-51, a fifth part of the population was attacked with cholera, and it has been estimated that the consequent mortality amounted to fifty thousand. From this combination of causes a dearth of labour has arisen by which the island is threatened with universal bankruptcy and ruin. Want of labour is the main cause of the distress, and a supply of labour must constitute the principal source of relief. Hence the question of highest importance is, whence and by what means is this supply to be obtained?

The admission, in 1844, of slave and free labour sugar into our markets, upon payment of nearly the same duty, gave great encouragement to the slave trade. Again, the iniquitous system of taking into the ports of Cuba all slave ships captured in the Caribbean Sea, and "apprenticing" the Africans found on board of

them as labourers in the very island for which they were originally destined as slaves, has given an advantage to rivals, and has most unfairly deprived our West Indian colonies of labour to which they were entitled. It has also robbed the poor creatures who have been seized of that liberty which treaties had provided for them, for the service of the Cuban apprentices is, to all intents and purposes, slavery. This monstrous system goes unchecked, although our own beautiful Jamaica, within sight of Cuba, is pining for want of labour. Slavery is another consideration, it is only true to say that it were more humane to apprentice the liberated Africans in Jamaica, where the British Government has a staff of special magistrates to prevent the blacks from being oppressed. England has thrown every possible obstacle in the way of her own planters obtaining labour from Africa, although Africans are the only people fitted to cultivate the sugar-cane and till the soil under a burning sun. We are not "protectionists," but we are disposed to think that there would not at this day have been a single slave either in Cuba or in Portorico had England encouraged emigration to our West Indian colonies, and for a very few years protected free labour from competition with slave labour sugar.

It is not yet too late to do what is right. Let a few of the splendid gun-boats which are now lying idle in our harbours be commissioned to cruise

SALES BY AUCTION.

SPECIAL NOTICE — Important to Builders, Timber Merchants, Contractors, and the Trade generally.

The entire cargo of the *Emma*, from Hobart Town, now discharging at Macnamara's and Son's Wharf, will be sold by auction, on their Wharf, THIS AFTERNOON, at half past 5 o'clock, comprising:

1000 ft. of timber, 8 x 24
Full cut quartering, 4 x 3
Battens
6-foot palings

Purchaser's expenses to be punctual in attendance.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD**, auctioneers.

To Painters, Glaziers, Plumbers, Oil and Colourmen.

Botted and Raw Linseed Oil

White lead, in 28 lb. drums

Green paint

Red and Yellow ditto

Black and Green ditto

Roman Cement

Lead Piping, assorted.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** have received

instructions to sell by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street, THIS DAY, Friday, the 3rd April, at 11 o'clock.

A selection of oils, paints, cement, lead piping, comprising:

90 lbs best white lead, each 28 lb.

90 lbs green paint, each 56 lb.

96 lbs red ditto, ditto

96 lbs yellow ditto, ditto

90 lbs black ditto, each 28 lb.

100 lbs ditto ditto, each 56 lb.

12 lbs brown ditto, each 28 lb.

100 lbs ditto ditto, each 56 lb.

94 lbs yellow, ditto

100 lbs black, ditto, each 56 lbs

100 barrels best Roman cement

20 cwt. lead piping, assorted.

Terms at sale.

The entire cargo of the *Superior*: Full-cut Hobart Town, Mill-sawn Timber, ex *Emma*, ordered especially with great care to suit this market, comprising:

Battens

6-foot Paling

Full-cut Joist and Quartering

Laths

Important to Master Merchants, Builders, Contractors, Architects, and the Trade generally.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** have received

instructions to sell by auction, on Messrs. Macnamara and Son's Wharf, Windmill-street, Miller's Point, T. H. I. D. A. Y., the 3rd instant, at half past 2 o'clock prompt.

The entire cargo of the *W. M. MA*, from Hobart Town, with a master quantity of superior mill-sawn Hobart Town hardwood, full cut, comprising:

FULL CUT JOIST.

6 x 3 — 10 to 20 feet long

6 x 4 — 14 to 20 feet ditto

6 x 5 — 10 to 20 feet ditto

8 x 3 — 10 to 20 feet ditto

10 x 3 — 20 feet long.

60,000 shingles — very fine sample

6,000 six-pence palings

100 lbs best quartering

4 x 3 — 10 to 20 feet long, assorted

6 x 3 — 10 to 20 feet ditto

Battens, assorted lengths

Terms at sale.

The above cargo is well-worth the attention of the trade, as being without exception one of the finest selected shipments of full-cut mill-sawn timber ever imported from Hobart Town, the whole of which will be for positive unreserved sale.

Terms, liberal.

The cargo of the *Lalla Rookh*, from Calcutta, via Patna, Rice, General Rum.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** have received

instructions from Messrs. Macnamara and Son, to be sold by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street, the 6th instant, at 11 o'clock.

The stock in trade and fixtures on the premises, comprising:

Counters, shelves, iron chest

Ice chest, peddler's box

Battens, glass fittings

Pulleys, lamp, chain, scs, &c.

Terms at sale.

In the insolvent Estate of Mr. Frederick Smith, by order of the Official Assignee.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** will sell by auction on the premises, No. 220, George-street, on MONDAY next, the 6th instant, at 11 o'clock.

The stock in trade and fixtures on the premises, comprising:

Counters, shelves, iron chest

Ice chest, peddler's box

Battens, glass fittings

Pulleys, lamp, chain, scs, &c.

Terms at sale.

BALMAIN—**BEEVOR LODGE**, Two minutes' walk from Waterley Bay, Dry Dock, from which steamboats ply hourly to Erskine-street.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** will sell by auction, on THURSDAY next, the 9th instant, at 11 o'clock.

A substantially stone-built family residence, at present occupied by the Rev. R. Barker. It contains, on the ground floor, three good rooms and entrance hall, one room being 23 x 15; on the upper story five rooms and linen closet; on the cellar floor, a kitchen, scullery, and a large verandah.

The house is new, being only just finished. The ground attached, which is 66 feet by 155, is fenced.

Carriage to view may be had from the auctioneer.

Terms, liberal, unexceptionable.

Terms, 50 per cent. cash deposit, residue on completion of the conveyance.

Preliminary Notice.

Most attractive Sale of Elegant modern Parian Furniture, just arrived ex Jacques Langlois, direct from France, from one of the first Parian manufacturers, comprising:

Imperial pattern Drawing-room Suites of the latest design and most elegant finish.

Easy Chairs, spring stuffed

Dining-room Suites complete, in morocco, spring, and highly finished

Ornate Dining Tables

Dining Glass

Bookcases

Washstands and sets complete, marble top

Wardrobes

Ornate Chairs, &c., &c., &c.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** have received

instructions from Messrs. Vial d'Armen, Millers, and Co. to be sold by auction, at their Stores, Wyndham-street, on THURSDAY next, the 9th instant, at 11 o'clock prompt.

A most valuable shipment of the newest pattern Parian, just arrived from France, ex Jacques Langlois, amongst which will be found the latest Imperial pattern drawing-room suites, &c., &c., full particulars of which appear to morrow.

Two Cottages, Neutral Bay, St. Leonards.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** will sell by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street, on THURSDAY next, the 9th of April, at 11 o'clock.

A large block of land, at the head of Neutral Bay, about 10 acres, a little more or less, being part of Parson's Point, Neutral Bay, St. Leonards.

Two Cottages, Neutral Bay, St. Leonards.

These have been erected, and let to respectable tenants, one being of stone, the other of wood. A fresh water creek runs past the end of the garden, affording a plentiful supply of water for all purposes and at all seasons.

Messrs. King and Doherty the Surveyors. The latter gentleman has promised to show the premises to all intending purchasers who may choose to inspect them.

Persons landing at Milson's Point: Those who choose to go by water can get any boat to be had, going up Neutral Bay.

A plan on view at the Mart.

Terms, very easy.—A portion of the purchase-money may remain for a fixed term at 5 per cent.

The far-famed Estate of Kologone, near Wollongong.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** have been

furnished with instructions to sell by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street, on THURSDAY, the 9th instant, at 11 o'clock.

22 ft. x 10 ft. of the enclosed estate of Kologone, being all the land on the 23rd on the line of the original division of the estate, having a fine water-mark running through it. The land is of the very best description for a market garden or a dairy farm, is all cleared, and nearly all fenced into five paddocks, four of which are on the creek bank. The fifth paddock has only had one crop taken out of it, and is cleared. The creek forms the boundary on the western side, while the road leading to the Sydney and Wollongong road separates this farm from the land of the late Mr. John Leydy. The distance to Wollongong is about two miles.

The present tenant pays only £40 per year, but his term will expire on the 1st of May. The four paddocks alone will keep cows sufficient to produce fifty lbs. of butter per week, with the grain alone.

URIKEL and MILLER will sell by public auction, at their Rooms, No. 232, George-street, on SATURDAY, the 4th instant, at 11 o'clock precisely.

A large quantity of the above goods, the property of a gentleman having the colony by the Columbian.

Terms at sale.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** have received instructions to sell by auction, on Messrs. Macnamara and Son's Wharf, Windmill-street, on THIS DAY, the 3rd instant, at half past 2 o'clock, 500 barrels cement, without reserve.

Terms, cash.

Farm of 34 Acres, on the Liverpool Road.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** will sell by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street, on THURSDAY next, the 9th of April, at 11 o'clock.

A small farm of 34 acres of land, at Irlam Town on the Liverpool Road, in the parish of Liberty Pains, adjoining the public-houses, and opposite to Mr. George Smith, of Kent-street, near Driffield-street, on the Liverpool Road.

The land is well timbered with ironbark, excepting a portion which has not been felled. It is fenced on three sides with ironbark fencing. A crest of water runs through it. Some good land is known to be in the neighbourhood.

It is well situated, and the timber, as fencing stuff or firewood, into Sydney, where a ready market would always be found for it. In this way the land will be paid for in a few months.

Terms at sale.

THURSDAY, 16th April.

Eight o'clock at Paddington.

Known as James' terrace.

Substantially erected of brick and stone, pleasantly situated on the high ground near the new Scotch Church now in course of erection, and only three minutes' walk to the cathedral terminus, the Paddington Inn, so long known.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** have received

instructions to sell by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street, on THURSDAY, the 16th April, at 11 o'clock.

Those eight comfortable and substantially built brick houses, on stone foundations, each containing three rooms, good rooms, the premises, the position healthy, and views delightful. The whole will be sold in lots to suit parties.

Terms at sale.

—Title good.

Land at Ulladulla, St. Vincent, being 256 Acres of the large and choice selection made by the grantees in the year 1827, and known since that period as the Ken-Eden estate, situated on the south-east of the Harbour, comprising a portion of the old cedar bank, known to be excellent and when cleared.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** have been

furnished with instructions to sell by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street, on THURSDAY, the 16th April, at 11 o'clock.

A portion of the land granted by the Crown to the late Rev. J. Kendall, at Ulladulla, a short distance from the Harbour. The subdivision of this large estate now offered for sale, comprises two hundred and fifty-six acres, and is described in the conveyance, and is bounded on the north by the State, and on the south by the Churra Creek. Some other sections of the original grant have been much improved, and found to be excellent dairy land.

For absolute sale. Title, excellent.

Terms at sale.

Preliminary Notice.

Russell's Hotel, Wollongong.

BOWDEN and **THRELKELD** will sell, on an early day, at the City Mart, 211, George-street.

The interest of the Official Assignees in and to the whole of the stock-in-trade of the Royal Hotel at Wollongong, known as Russell's Hotel.

Particulars may be had on application to the Auctioneers, who have an inventory in view, with a full description of the premises, which are admirably adapted for the trade.

The present business is still being carried on.

A suitable person would find this a first-rate business and easily extend to meet the demands of the numerous visitors from the metropolis and residents.

Forty crates Copeland's celebrated Ironstone and Earthware Dishes, and others.

JOHN G. CO. 101N will sell, at the Bank Auction Rooms, THIS DAY, April 3rd, 1857, at 11 o

TASMANIA.

We have papers to the 26th ultimo from Hobart Town, and to the 25th from Launceston.

On Monday evening, the 23rd, a crowded public meeting was held at the Albert Theatre, Hobart Town, for the purpose, as set forth in the placards posted throughout the city, of taking into consideration the political decisions of certain individuals, and to elicit an opinion as to whether the Press should be discouraged in the disgraceful and un-English attempts to mislead the public, and deny the popular administrators the fair play to which they are justly entitled, so long as their measures are calculated to advance Tasmania." Mr. William Cuffy was voted into the chair.

The *Daily News* says, in noticing this meeting:—Last night was the first meeting of the Press's "league." Perhaps it was rather a rough one. Perhaps it is not "staggered" undeterred.

Our present object is less to dwell upon the immediate pressure of last night's "demonstration," than to draw attention to the suggestion thrown out to editors of colonial journals in one of the resolutions adopted by the meeting, which is so sensible and valuable in itself, and, irretrievably, of a higher order than those which have sprung from their heads. The next of the Society's Exhibitions will be left town to give it all the prominence it deserves, and to acknowledge the force, while we plead guilty to an occasional infringement of the canon it seeks to enforce. Here is the resolution:—"The meeting therefore opines that the Press of this colony generally would do well to trouble the public less with their own squibbles, and with their narration of public and private failings, and more seriously and seriously with questions embracing the progress and advancement of the colony." No rational man will doubt for a instant the propriety of this sentiment, from whomsoever it may emanate, or wherever it emanates.

HOW OFT AUTHORITY TRAIN UP AN ORPHAN.—The *Cornwall Chronicle* says: There is at the present moment (25th March), confined in the Leuncester Castle (the term goal) who would convey no adequate idea of its extent, an orphan lad, named Wair, who is bound to a master, a man of great wealth, who is depravity! we hear our worthy editor la la la la! Shocking insensibility of the law!—and who is bound to administer the laws, we say. Having made minute inquiries on this subject, we have every reason to believe the following strange statement to be substantially true. The poor boy referred to was left an orphan just as his last "entered his teats." A relative residing near Campbelltown, then took this under his protection. On the 23rd M. A. had a pig which was in the boy's charge, and was sent to Campbelltown's property, who was in the act of driving it to the market, when Wair's cousin called to him to go, and drive the pig home. The poor boy naturally obeyed the order, and was not aware that in doing so he had offended the majesty of the law, by perpetrating a rescue. The boy was summoned to appear before Thoma Mason, Esq., P.M., &c., of Campbelltown. Wair was fined in the sum of £5 and costs by that august and learned court, and was ordered to pay so much for so trifling an offence, as the value of the pig. He was sent to the stocks, and there remained until the 27th, where he remained until the present month. Thinking that even the iron hand of the law would not let its grasp on a mere child, at the end of nine months' banishment, the orphan boy was allowed to return to his only home: but, whether in this case, a majority of the fine fell to any of the Campbelltown corps of police, we will hardly need to be made acquainted with the fact of the presence among them of many persons who have arrived from England in the Swan River. Some of these, it is said, have been confined to the stocks for a week, and in place of a punishment, were evidently waiting an opportunity to beat, and, prying with a suspicious curiosity into shops, were evidently waiting an opportunity when, being unguarded, they might enter and appropriate whatever they could get. That peculiar talent, the exercise of which was the cause of their being introduced to this province by a lengthened and circuitous route from England, cannot be expected to lie dormant in such a crew of desperadoes. The police should be particularly careful in securing their posts, against the anticipated depredations of these marauding villains. The police have now ample scope and great necessity for the exercise of their utmost vigilance.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

We have two days later from Perth, viz., to 6th March.

The *Perth Gazette* of that date intimates the arrival on the 1st March of the Sma's mail, from St. George's Sound.

It appears that, some months ago, a number of horses were shipped to the Indies from Western Australia; and by the same ship a quantity of copper ore. The *Gazette* intimates that letters have been received from the port of the arrival of the Rumby, which landed her horses in good condition, and they are reported to be the best in the world. "The copper imported" is the first of a series of articles which our informant has in his possession.

CHIN-KIANG.—On the frontiers of Chin-Kiang, west or north-west, are two important passes, leading from that province to the great plains of Chin-Kiang. These passes are distant about six miles, i.e. 150 miles from the coast, and are the chief passes through which the rebels appear to be moving.

CHIN-KIANG.—The rebels are said to be moving in great strength, two thousand men.

One thousand veteran troops from Tanyang, and one thousand militia from Chin-Kiang, have just been ordered to move in that direction towards Chang-yuan, in order to save that place and drive back the insurgents.—*North China Herald*.

STRANGERS OR INSURGENTS.—The insurgent body, which has been dispersed by the operations of the last two or three days, the opinion that larger depots exist near the present diggings, and the determination of those on the spot to continue the war, is considerably strengthened. The gold washed out is still generally in minute grains, but the systematic diggers have now found a quantity of gold of a larger size.

By the *Lady Astor* a large quantity of agricultural machinery had arrived. Also, two thousand mills, one twelve and the other of six-horse power; and another mill of similar power and capacity, but to be worked by horses.

According to the *Gazette*, there is now in Perth a native who actually cut off his own leg! His statement is, that while engaged in a fight the leg was broken, and, to save a spear, and he after-wards cut it off with a knife, but he managed to stop the bleeding we could not gather from him. It is well healed, and the poor fellow manages to get along pretty well with the aid of a pole.

CHINA.

We are indebted to our contemporary the *Argus* for six days later news from Hongkong.

The *Overland Friend* of 30th January says: Since the despatch of the clipper shipper Lancashire on the 21st instant, the only military movement of importance has been the abandonment of Canton and the Dutch Folly, the highest position in the river now held by the squadron being Teetotum Fort in the Macao range, about two miles below the former fort. Naturally, as far as possible, the rebels are to be avoided, and the Chinese are to be avoided.

PRODUCE CIRCULAR.

THE WOOL MARKET this week has been fairly supplied, and the advance in last report has been fully sustained. In consequence of the arrival of the *Argus*, we are now in a position to give a more accurate account of the market.

Tallow.—A few casks of bear's tallow of this season's boiling, from the Clarence River, arrived by the *Gratton* a good shipping vessel, and are now in the market, fair quality, at £20 5s. There is an extensive enquiry for shipment to England, and the prices realized show a rise of from 2s. 6d. to 3s. each.

Supper.—The supply has been limited, and the range from 6d. to 11d. according to quality.

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